

# Metro Codes

E-News For Neighborhoods

Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

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## **Winter Home Maintenance Tips**

Now that the weather has started to turn colder, it's time to make an inspection of our home to be sure there are not any repairs that need to be made that will help us live com-

fortably during the coming winter months. People often neglect these items, focusing more on the yard and other exterior portions of the home, but there are some items that, if left undone, can lead to more costly repairs and could make for some cold winter nights.

One of the first areas to take a look at is your roof. Are there damaged or missing shingles? Look for signs of wear in the peaks and valleys of your roof where leaves and

other debris tend to accumulate. Also make sure your roof flashing is in tact. Water is your roof's worst enemy and it is critical to keep water from penetrating your roof deck. While you up on the roof, also take a look at any vent openings, chimneys and your gutters. Often gutters get clogged with leaves and this does two things. It forces the excess water up over the gutters, which defeats their purpose and you run the risk of gutters stressed by the excess weight of water and leaves tearing away from your home.

Make a thorough inspection of every window and door frame. You don't want any cracks or openings between the door or window and the exterior wall. Now would be a good time to apply a good silicon caulk to seal any small gaps. You should also inspect each door and window unit for proper operation. Are the weather seals intact? Now would be the time to repair or replace them to help eliminate air leaks into the home.

While you are at it, also look at the homes exterior walls and overhangs. Are there areas that have exposed wood were the paint has weathered. Are there signs of rotted wood or damaged exterior trim? Any wall or exterior

surface not protected from the elements is an invitation to disaster. Again, water is the enemy and every exterior surface, no matter how small must be protected. Part of your

winter yard maintenance should include trimming back those shrubs and

Have your HVAC system checked. The dead of winter is not the time to find our your furnace is dirty. A dirty unit will not function properly and could be putting high levels of carbon monoxide into your room air. All units should get at least two inspections and cleanings a year, but this is especially true for units that burn fuel to provide heat. These are susceptible to carbon soot deposits and

that build up can cause the unit to emit excess carbon monoxide. Having the unit checked now can save you from having to endure a few cold nights since most units tend to fail when the weather outside is at its worse and it may take several days to get a repairman out to fix the problem.

Check your outside hose bibs for leaks. These should also be protected from cold weather and freezing. Some folks like to leave the hose connected. Make sure the hose has been completely drained before freezing weather hits to prevent damage to the hose and a possible water leak.

Just a few simple chores can prepare your home for winter weather and can prevent more costly repairs. And remember, if you should have to have roof work done that will involve more than 25% of the roof surface, you will need to have your roofing contractor obtain a permit.



# STATE TO ANNOUNCE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee to promote walking and bicycling in Nashville

Mayor Karl Dean has issued an executive order to create a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) to further Nashville's efforts to become a more walkable and bikeable city.

"Walking and bicycling are healthy and environmentallyfriendly forms of transportation that need to be easier to do in our city. It is my goal that at the end of my term as mayor, Nashville will have been transformed into one of the great walkable and bikeable cities in our country," Dean said.

"I look forward to working with this advisory committee to further the relationship between government and our community advocates in this area, and to promote walking and bicycling in Nashville."

The formation of such a committee is recommended in the Strategic Plan for Sidewalks & Bikeways, which was recently updated by the Public Works and Planning departments through a directive from the mayor. The Walk Bike Nashville Annual Meeting is tonight starting at 6 p.m. at the Nashville Farmer's Market, 900 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.

#### **BPAC** members:

- Erik Cole, Metro Council
- Shirley Cooper, HCA and Potenza Cycling Club
- Sean Davies, Walk Bike Nashville
- Kim Hawkins, Hawkins Partners Inc. Landscape Architects
- Britton Kinnard, Gran Fondo Cycles
- Jenny Magill, Nashville Striders
- John Norris, Greenways Commission
- Thomas F. O'Connell, MTA Board
- Erika Sumner, Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce
- Johniene Thomas, Northwest Nashville Civic Association
- Debbie Thurman, AT&T
- · Patrick Willard, AARP

# MAYOR APPOINT PROJECT MANAGER FOR EDUCATION FIRST INITIATIVES

Continuous improvement Coordinator for MNPS to lead mayor's education reform efforts

Mayor Karl Dean announced the appointment of a project manager to oversee and coordinate the initiatives outlined in his education reform blueprint released last month.

Laura Hansen, currently the continuous improvement coordinator for Metro Nashville Public Schools, has been selected for the position. She will begin work in early November. Her position will be funded through the Education First Fund, which the mayor helped establish at the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

"We are making great headway in our efforts to address teacher recruitment and student engagement. We have successfully attracted two national teacher recruitment organizations to Nashville – Teach For America and The New Teacher Project. The Attendance Center has been funded and is operating, and we will soon see some progress on our efforts to expand afterschool programs. But we have a lot of work still to do," Dean said.

"Laura's experience overseeing change initiatives in Metro makes her the right person to coordinate education initiatives in my office, and I look forward to working with her."

The education reform blueprint has five areas of focus, which Hansen will coordinate: teacher recruitment and professional development, increased school choice, youth engagement, youth employment and career exploration, and reforming existing schools.

In Hansen's current position she leads a department that uses quality methodologies to identify opportunities for improvement, creates plans for implementation of improvement initiatives and facilitates change management.

"Maximizing the potential of organizations and the people within them has always been a passion for me," Hansen said. "I believe in the power of teamwork and the limitless potential of people who come together with a common goal; to achieve incredible results. I am excited to be invited to join Mayor Dean's team and consider it a great honor to be given the opportunity to serve the city in this capacity."

Hansen has also served MNPS in the capacity of project/ quality manager over the past five years. She served on the 2005 Board of Examiners for the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence (TNCPE), where she utilized the Baldridge Criteria to evaluate organizational performance and provide feedback for multiple organizations. This knowledge was then utilized to lead MNPS in their completion of a Level 1 application through the TNCPE.

Prior to joining Metro Schools, she worked as an independent contractor for multiple educational software companies, providing training to K-12 teachers and staff on how to incorporate educational technologies into a classroom environment with the goal of providing differentiated instruction

#### 2008 FALL LEAF COLLECTIONS NOW UNDERWAY

Public Works crews are traveling Metro's 12 brush routes picking up bagged leaves left at the curb or in alleys.

Residents should use paper or plastic bags (biodegradable plastic is preferred but not required), and have bagged leaves out by the first day of collection in their area:

| Areas 1, 2, 3    | November 25 – December 9  |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Areas 4, 5, 6    | December 11 – December 30 |
| Areas 7, 8, 9    | January 2 – January 16    |
| Areas 10, 11, 12 | January 20 – February 3   |

Davidson County residents can also take bagged leaves to Metro's Bordeaux mulch facility at 1400 County Hospital Road free of charge. However, if you bring leaves bagged in plastic, please plan to take the bags home with you; plastic bags will not be accepted.

Besides bagged leaf collection, there are other ways to dis-

pose of leaves. They can be mulched in place by a lawn mower or piled up in your yard for composting. Please DO NOT rake leaves into the street where they may clog up storm drains or cause other problems.

For more information, call 880-1000, or visit <a href="https://www.nashville.gov/recycle">www.nashville.gov/recycle</a> for a map of the 2008 Fall Leaf Collection areas and schedule.

Satellite cities (Belle Meade, Forest Hills, Oak Hill, Berry Hill, Lakewood and Goodlettsville) are not included in Metro's leaf collection program.

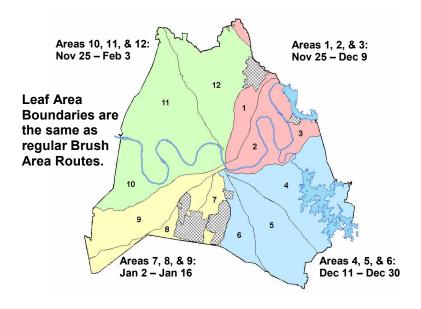
Leaves should be placed in biodegradable plastic or paper bags for pickup

| Do  | Don't   |
|---|---|
| Put brush out before the first day the trucks are scheduled to be in your area.   | Stack brush against trees, fences, utility poles or other stationary objects.*  |
| Place your brush where your garbage is collected—at the curb if your trash is collected there or in the alley if you have alley trash collection. | Place brush, clippings and/or leaves where they can be washed into a storm sewer, catch basin or stream and clog up drainage systems. |
| Put leaves out with your limbs and other brush in brown paper bags ONLY.  | Include limbs that are more than 4 inches in diameter. No stumps are accepted.  |

\*REMEMBER: The mechanical arm of the knuckle boom truck needs enough room to lift the brush pile up and into the trailer that is pulled behind the truck. Only the driver travels with each truck; no other crew members are there to move piles or separate items that don't belong in a brush pile.

Brush from commercial tree and landscaping services must be disposed of by the company and not left for collection by Metro. (According to Metro Code 10.20.085.) If you hire someone to cut your brush, be sure that the cost of hauling the brush and other debris away is included in the price.

#### 2008-09 Fall Leaf Collection Map



### **Deep Fryer Safety**

A longtime food favorite in the southern United States, the delicious deep-fried turkey has quickly grown in popularity thanks to celebrity chefs such as Martha Stewart and Emeril Lagasse. While some people rave about this tasty creation, Underwriters Laboratories Inc.'s (UL) safety experts are concerned that backyard chefs may be sacrificing safety for good taste.

"We're worried by the increasing reports of fires related with turkey fryer use," says John Drengenberg, UL consumer affairs manager. "Based on our test findings, the fryers used to produce those great-tasting birds are not worth the risks. And, as a result of these tests, UL has decided not to certify any turkey fryers with our trusted UL Mark."

# Here's why using a deep-fryer can be dangerous:

- Many units easily tip over, spilling the hot oil within the cooking pot.
- If the cooking pot is overfilled with oil, the oil may spill out of the unit when the turkey is placed into the cooking pot. Oil may hit the burner/flames causing a fire to engulf the entire unit.
- Partially frozen turkeys placed into the fryer can cause a spillover effect. This too, may result in an extensive fire.
- With no thermostat controls, the units also have the potential to overheat the oil to the point of combustion.
- The sides of the cooking pot, lid and pot handles get dangerously hot, posing severe burn hazards.

## Codes Employees Exceed Goal Set For MECCC Campaign For 2009

Record \$38,394.92 Raised For Charity

Metro Codes and Building Safety exceeded its goals for the 2009 Metropolitan Employees Consolidated Charitable Campaign in a big way as employees contributions added to the 12th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament totaled \$38.394.92.

Carla Langley-Smith, who headed this year's campaign, thanked the entire department.

I am so happy we have again had 100 percent participation in this year's campaign. This succeeded our goal previously set. Everyone's hard work and compassion is greatly appreciated," she said.

In addition to the payroll deduction drive, Ms. Langley-Smith said the department held a rooftop costume cookout party.



Members of the Codes & Building Safety Department pose in front of the a check for this years contribution from Metro Codes of \$38,394.92.

### 12th Annual Metro Codes Charity Golf Tournament A Success

A total of \$28,000 was realized from the Metro Codes and Building Safety 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament which benefited three community charities through the Metropolitan Employee Consolidated Charities Campaign.

"We had a great day. The weather was perfect and all of the golfers were happy to have an opportunity to play and to help three great charities," said Codes and Building Safety Director Terry Cobb.

Miriam's Promise, whose mission is to ensure the well-being of children before, during, and after birth; Harris-Hillman School, a Metro public school for special needs children; and Easter Seals Camp, which provides exceptional services to ensure that people living with autism and other disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play. All benefited through the MECCC contribution from the tournament.



Terry Cobb (right) teamed up with Rick Jones and Jim Winchester





Winners were: First Flight - 1st - Jeff Barnes, Billy Taylor, Mike Cook, Perry Patterson;

2nd - Bobby Allen, Ken Jameson, Randy Evans, Edie Phillips

3rd - Andrew Haley, Scott Lucas, Curtis Coleman, William Carney

Second Flight - 1st - Josh Evans, Kevelin Grimes, Scott Frazier

2nd - Greg Pierce, Randy McFarlin, Jeff Evangelist

3rd - Robert Stickler, Aaron Harris, Mike Gravencard, Sam Snopes

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Terry Cobb and Bill Penn welcome your feedback on our e-newsletter. Please send your comments to Bill Penn, at bill.penn@nashville.gov
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For information regarding accessibility, please contact Manley Biggers at (615) 862-6521 or fax (615) 862-6499. He can also be reached at: manley.biggers@nashville.gov